NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

PUBLISHED BY J. B. RUSSELL, NO. 52, NORTH MARKET STREET, (AT THE AGRICULTURAL WAREHOUSE.)—T. G. FESSENDEN, EDITOR.

VOL. X. BOSTON, WEDNESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 22, 1832. NO. 32.

ORIGINAL AGRICULTURAL ESSAYS.

☞The following is the successful Dissertation, for which its author, the Rev. MORRELL ALLEN of Pembroke, Ms. was awarded a premium by the Plymouth County Agricultural Society, at their late anniversary at Bridgewater.

DISSERTATION ON THE MIXTURE OF SOILS.

THE Author of nature constructed the earth to produce, spontaneously, a vast variety of plants and trees. Uninhabited regions, with a few exceptions, are found covered with a vigorous growth of some sort of vegetable substances.

When the hand of cultivation is first applied, and the natural growth subdued to make room for such plants as are esteemed more useful, the soil is always found in a state of great richness to produce cultivated plants. It is in a course of imprudent cultivation, soils are ever rendered unproductive; by what is called severe cropping in taking away the produce, and not returning a just compensation. The art of successful agriculture chiefly consists in devising and applying the most effectual means of restoring to soils, those qualities which are taken from them in the removal of crops. The perfection of this art is not to be attained without very deep research in some of the most intricate branches of philosophy.

It is nesessary to analyze both plants and soil, to discover, with minute accuracy, what qualities are best adapted to the vigorous growth of certain plants; but the art may be acquired in sufficient measure, for the most useful purposes of life, by observation and a course of experiments within he reach of every practical man.

Diligent attention to the designs and operations of nature, in the vegetable world, will qualify us to make, in many cases, certain returns to the soil of properties which we shall perceive has been taken from it, in a course of cropping. The vegetable substances which abound in newly cleared lands, in different degrees of decomposition, and cause the soil at first to yield crops in great abundance, are in a few years exhausted; after which, some soils, especially those that are warm, loose and naturally favorable for grain, become extremely barren. Here it seems scarcely possible for any man to mistake the cause, or err in his judgment of the most efficacious application, to restore energy to the soil. It wants nothing but the stimulus of decayed vegetables. This stimulus can be applied in various ways. It is applied with the greatest immediate influence, in the form of excrementitous manures, but these are not attainable in the ordinary situations of farmers, to an extent sufficient for all the purposes of an improving cultivation. It is also applied in mixing plants, in the most vigorous state of their growth, with the soil, and it is applied in mixing one kind of soil with another. The mixture of soils, even when there is very little apparent difference in the qualities, is always attended with some good effects.

Particles in a soil, which had long been in contact, and, in consequence of long connexion, lost much of the energy of their action on plants, are separated in mixing soils, placed in new connexions and act with renewed vigor. But the most permanent and best effects are always to be expected from the mixture of soils of different qualities. When the object is to produce as much immediate influence as possible, merely to assist one short rotation of crops, to have the application we make, act chiefly as manure, then we may take our materials from any situation, where we know vegetable substances have fallen and decayed.

We may go into forests, and, in certain stages of the growth of the wood, without any perceptible injury, skim the surface of the whole lot.—This soil of the woods, carried in sufficiently large quantities on to old fields, will restore them to original productiveness. And this will sometimes prove an inexhaustible resource for renewing old fields; for as often as the fields decline, the soil in the wood-lot will be again renewed and fit to remove. For the same purposes, the earth should be carried from the sides of walls and fences, where the leaves have been lodged from the forests. It should also be carried from hollows and temporary ponds, which, in certain seasons of the year, become dry and afford immense quantities of vegetable matters, in different stages of decomposition, and suitable to apply to any kind of soil.

Where streams of water occasionally overflow the banks, an abundance of vegetable and earthy matter is lodged on the meadows, which in many cases, especially where there is not much extent of meadow to receive the substances conveyed by the stream, it is prudent to remove on to higher land. It will there act as manure and at the same time gradually alter the texture of the soil, rendering it more retentive of dew and rain, and easily penetrated by the fibrous roots of plants. Of the value of those substances which are carried in streams of water, to enrich soils, we have most convincing proof in the unexampled productiveness of interval lands. It is not exclusively the vegetable substances carried onto these lands, that makes them so astonishingly productive; there is a portion of every kind of soil existing in the surrounding country, annually carried on with the vegetable substances. Intervals are composed of every sort of earth the water can reach and remove. This circumstance may properly encourage the mixture of many kinds of earth, even when there is no particular evidence that each kind is especially adapted to remedy any deficiency in the soil, which we would improve. There is less hazard in administering medicines in great profusion to cure the diseases in the soil, than in the human body. What is always disgraceful in the physician, viz. to boast the number of his applications and the judgment with which they have been made, as it is impossible for them to do any harm, if they do no good, may in the farmer, often be a course worthy of praise. In stepping out of the beaten path of habitual practice, and calling attention to experiments, which to some may look very simple and to others very absurd, we may become instrumental in the discovery of highly important truths.

Accidental occurrences often produce results, which show us that much useful knowledge might be obtained in a course of new experiments. A load of coarse sand, removed merely for the purpose of clearing away an incumbrance and placed in some hollow on the farm, will often show how much that kind of soil can be improved by the application of materials, which seem to be wholly inactive and destitute of the food of plants. Many other applications of accidental origin, may lead attentive observers into new discoveries in the true philosophy, in relation to the mixture of soils.

But we should not think the knowledge that has been acquired through accidental occurrences, or the speculations of theorists, which we have perused, can ever justify our neglect of other means of increasing and applying knowledge. New trials and experiments are necessary, to carry forward every important branch of agricultural knowledge with the most speedy and certain success. Theory may satisfy the speculatist, but practical men want ocular evidence; they are not easily persuaded to desert an old for a new path, till the obstacles are manifestly well cleared away. By attention to the constituent parts of soils through which streams of water pass, and the kinds of plants which grow most luxuriantly on the banks of them, we can discover the causes of the extraordinary richness of intervals and learn to imitate the operations of nature. In the removal of alluvion, to mix with other soils, the most important thing to be observed is, always to place it where the soil is somewhat different in texture from the soils through which the stream of water had passed.

This is a rule easy to understand and apply, and the observance of it will insure success to this sort of labor. The maxim of Kligogg, a famous philosophical farmer of Switzerland, will prove true in every region and climate: that 'every species of earth may be instrumental to the improvement of another of opposite qualities.'

When alluvion is placed on a soil, different in quality from that through which the stream passes, as far as composed of earth, it forms a proper and useful addition to the soil, and as much of it as consists of vegetable matters acts with as much energy in that situation, as it could in any other. The same rule is important to be observed in the application of materials taken from hollows and the bottoms of temporary ponds. We should consider what sort of earth has been washed into them, and endeavor to incorporate it with that of different texture. In this course, permanent improvements are constantly made in the soil, while every possible advantage is derived from the vegetable matters applied and acting as manures.

When soils are mixed, with a view both to permanent improvement and immediate influence on crops, it is also important to attend to the natural growth in the vicinity where our materials are collected, and apply them where our purpose is to cultivate plants, bearing some affinity to those which nature had planted in the soil removed.—'If we examine,' says the Farmers' Magazine, 'tracts of land, which have not been cultivated, we find nature has adapted different kinds of plants to most of the distinguishable varieties of soils; and although some belonging to one, may from some cause or other, be found on lands of a different quality, they seldom thrive or perfect their seed so as to become general.

The great care of the farmer ought, therefore, to be, by proper mixtures to reduce his lands to that state and temperament in which the extremes of hot and cold, wet and dry, are best corrected by each other, to give them every possible advantage flowing from the benign influences of the sun and air; to adopt such kinds of plants as they afford, in this state, the greatest nourishment to, and to renew their fertility by a judicious allowance of the most proper manures. Where these things are done, there are few spots so unfriendly to cultivation, as not to repay his expenses and labor with a plentiful increase. But without these, the best tracts of land will in time become a barren waste, or produce little but weeds.

Alluvion, as it is composed of earthy and vegetable matters, easy of access, and found in plenty on almost every farm, may justly be considered as our first and best resource in the admixture and improvement of soils. But without any great difficulty we can obtain access to many other materials, which will produce very permanent, if not so immediate and perceivable good effects. We need not confine our researches to the surface of the earth; a vegetative principle is found in every stratum of it to the lowest depth penetrated by man. In digging far into the earth for materials to mix with the soil, we find those which, if properly applied, will produce very lasting good effects. We thus obtain a virgin mould, soon to become the parent of a vigorous and numerous progeny. Earth taken at some distance below the surface, can be incorporated with any sort of soil with some beneficial results,—because the influence of the air upon the new earth will occasion so active an operation of the vegetative principle, that any kind of soil will be stimulated and assisted in that operation. It is, however, advisable, even in the application of pit earth, to regard the Swiss maxim and place it on a soil of different quality. The different qualities of the pit earth and the soil where we would place it, can be ascertained with accuracy enough by inspection. It is necessary to penetrate considerably below the surface of the earth to find several substances, which become active and powerful, when mixed with suitable soils.

To be continued.

HORTICULTURAL PREMIUMS.

Mr Fessenden—A writer in your paper of the 8th instant, under the signature of 'Rusticus,' has pointed out, what he considers to be gross inequalities in the list of Premiums for Vegetables, Fruits, and Flowers, proposed by the different committees of the Horticultural Society, for the two past years. As I dissent from him in some points of fact, as well as the inferences to be deduced therefrom, I propose to examine his objections.

Commencing with the list of Garden Vegetables, he enquires, 'what do we find, a prize of one dollar for a dozen beets; a dozen carrots, &c, &c, the same; cucumbers raised in the open air, two dollars, —and those forced, but one. Is not here a great mistake? Why, does not every person who knows anything of raising such vegetables, know that to grow a beet or a carrot, requires but little more than a mere novice,—while to force a cucumber, is one of the first requisites of a perfect gardener? What kind of a gardener would he be thought (especially in England), who, on inquiry whether he could force cucumbers, grapes, and melons, should say he could not? Why no gardener at all,' &c.

All premiums, I take it, are but means to an end; first, to create, or increase certain skill in the competitors, tending to produce some desirable ultimate result; the object with these roots, as well as other articles on the premium list, is precocity of growth; and whoever can cause a supply of them to be had for three or four weeks earlier than it otherwise would be,—as a substitute for the wilted, decaying and unhealthy things of the same kinds, which have been housed through the winter,—renders an important service to the community; and, although it is no very difficult matter to grow a beet or a carrot, yet, a novice would find something to do to insure the most successful cultivation of an early crop,—or, if he pursued it as an object of field culture, our Agricultural Societies have, and no doubt with great propriety, offered liberal premiums for them. And now, Sir, I should be glad to learn of what value to us here, is the skill used in forcing melons, that a high premium should be offered for it? In England, where, as Cobbett tells you, a melon is *a melon*,—and where they are carried, by twos and threes, and with as much care as a new-born baby is carried, and sold at a dollar to four dollars a-piece,—it is, no doubt, of great importance; but in a country where they are grown in such perfection in the open air, and in such profusion too, that the whole community are satiated with them during their natural season, it is absolutely of no utility. Who would attempt to force melons for the market; or for any purpose, other than to please the taste of an amateur cultivator?

The same remarks will apply to cucumbers. Many of our market gardeners understand the simple method of bringing them forward under what are termed hand lights, (not forcing them,) with no other heat than that of the sun; so as to have them in so early, that the weather is sometimes cold enough to give one a chill to think of such a thing.

As to grapes, if it is contended that it requires less skill to cultivate them, successfully, in the open air, than in green-houses, I have a different opinion;—and I will adduce, as evidence of the fact that it does not, what it is no uncommon thing to see, that is,—while the grapes in the green-house are in fine condition, those on the open trellises are languishing — and all under the management of the same cultivator; the reverse of this I have never seen.

The importance, too, of growing grapes in open air, should it ever be the case that it may be more constantly certain in the result,—I conceive to be infinitely greater than that of forcing them; and if ever they should be so abundant as to become an article of common indulgence as table fruit, it will be by open culture; and I have arrived at this conclusion, partly, from the relative prices which this fruit bears in the London and Paris markets. In England, where the art of forcing fruit has reached a greater degree of perfection than in any other country,—with their infinite number of forcing-houses, cheapness of fuel, and cheapness of labor, we find the prices extremely high. In the reports of the Covent Garden market, hot-house grapes are quoted at 2*s*. a 3*s*. 6*d*., 4*s*. a 6*s*.; and in March, when they are said to be just coming in, as high as 30*s*. to 40*s*. sterling, or $6 67 to $10 a pound. While in the reports of the fruit-market of Paris, the *Chasselas de Fontainbleau*, a leading popular variety, is quoted in some months at 13 fr. 50c. per basket of ten and a half pounds, about 24 cents per pound; in others at 25 cents per pound.

The premium list for flowers is said, too, to be out of joint; but I doubt much, whether, if it were arranged in accordance with the views taken of it, it would make much practical difference in the result; for the truth is, the competitors have been much more numerous for the premiums which it is recommended to have increased, than they have for those which it is recommended to lower.

It is said, too, a *system* is wanted in awarding premiums; and that general satisfaction has not been given; and you are told,—what may have been considered a piece of very interesting intelligence to the benighted gentlemen who have acted as adjudicators of premiums,—that, sometimes in awarding premiums for flowers in England, the pots, &c, are arranged in rows, and numbered; and that, without the least knowledge of the growers of a single article, the persons, whose duty it is, step in, and decide at once who are entitled to the prizes, to the entire satisfaction of all concerned. And is this the *system* which it is intended to be understood that we want? Surely, Sir, those who award prizes in future, must be incorrigibly stupid, if they do not go right with this luminous system before them. I had previously thought, that in England, it was considered rather difficult, always to decide correctly on horticultural premiums; and I had thought so because I find it so stated to be the fact, by those who have most ably treated the subject in their periodical journals;—and as an apology for such an opinion, I beg leave to subjoin some of the general rules laid down by them for the adjudication of prizes. In the first place, they say, 'Horticultural Societies would do well to decide as much as possible, between the result of chance and the result of skill; for it should ever be borne in mind, that the merit for which a prize ought to be awarded, exists not in the production, but in the producer; and therefore the merit of the exhibiter is to be estimated by the degree of science, care and skill exhibited in the cultivator.' There is considerable difficulty in ascertaining these qualities, because in very many cases, they can only be inferred from the productions themselves. The best dish of cherries gathered in July, perhaps, from standard trees planted twenty years ago, may imply but slender merit in the person who produced them. The following good qualities inherent in fruits are to be considered, as a means of arriving at a correct result, viz:

Rarity of sort;
Precocity of season;
Magnificence of size and weight;
Fineness of color;
Excellence of quality;
Extent of quantity sent for exhibition;
Ingenuity of culture; and
Cheapness of production.

But of how little use are these considerations, when you are at once provided with a *system* which obviates the necessity of attending to the most important of them at all. And now, sir, while I am entirely willing to admit that your correspondent 'Rusticus,' was influenced by the best motives in producing the essay which has occasioned these remarks, yet I must take occasion to say, that such sweeping censure is not particularly acceptable to those upon whom it directly reflects; and the more so in a writer, who fails, not only to propose any remedies for the defects he discovers, but who sees defects where in fact there are none.

Yours with great respect,

Dorchester, Feb. 11. A Cultivator.

FOR THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

REMEDY

FOR AN OX OR COW, WHEN CHOKED BY A POTATO.

Mr Fessenden—Perhaps the following remedy for a creature choked with a potato, has long since been noticed and extensively known.

Instead of breaking the potato with a mallet, or ramming it down the throat with a wound rope or beanpole,—which I have known to be practised, to the no small danger and cruel pain of the animal,—take common soft soap, made with leached ashes, mixed with warm water, and pour the same down the throat; probably a part will pass the potato, sufficient, that in case the potato is not immediately cast out of the mouth, to provide for it a slippery passage downwards.

A neighbor of mine, a practical farmer in the best sense, a few evenings since told me had known the above practice successful in a great many instances, and had never known it to fail.

Yours very respectfully, L. M.

Maine, Jan. 1832.

ADDRESS

PRONOUNCED BEFORE THE MASSACHUSETTS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY, IN COMMEMORATION OF ITS THIRD ANNUAL FESTIVAL, SEPTEMBER 21, 1831.

BY MALTHUS A. WARD, M. D.

Continued from page 243.

If we turn to books on gardening, even by respectable writers, how vague, and sometimes how absurd, are the general directions for preserving fruit trees 'from the slug,' and 'from the caterpillar,' as if all slugs and all caterpillars were alike, infested the same trees, appeared at the same time, and were to be destroyed by the same means. In this, as in medicine, the disease must be sedulously watched from its commencement through all its stages;—accurate observations must be noted down even on the most trivial points;—and finally, *if the injury does really originate in an insect*, specimens of that insect in all its stages must be preserved. With such materials the naturalist's advice may be asked with some prospect of advantage. How this subject has been so unaccountably overlooked I know not; but I do know that it deserves the immediate attention of this Society, and might well be entitled to its highest premium.

The science, however, which sheds the strongest and most widely diffused radiance upon the labors of the Horticulturist, is *Botany*, in all its branches, but more especially that of Phytology, which teaches the structure of plants, and the functions of their several organs; for the gardener, like the physician, has to deal with the vital principle;—and, like him, should understand the anatomy and physiology of the subjects that come under his care. This is essential, in order to enable him, in any other than the hazardous manner of an empiric, to promote their health, to recognise their diseases, and to apply the appropriate remedies.

This, as a distinct branch of botanical science, is not of a very remote date, and, notwithstanding the immense force of talent which has been made to bear upon it, is still in an imperfect state. The principal English writers in this department are Grew and Hales, who treated of the solids and fluids of plants; Dr Priestley, who brought in the aid of Pneumatic Chemistry; and Dr Darwin, whose 'Phytologia,' notwithstanding the unpleasant coloring, which his peculiar philosophical notions concerning vitality, has thrown over it, ought to be carefully studied by every one, who would manage his garden well himself, or know when it is well managed for him by others;—and lastly, Mr Knight, of the extent and utility of whose labors, it would be impertinent in me to think I could inform this audience. The principal European laborers in this field, are Malpighi, Bonnet, Duhamel, Desfontaines and De Candolle; and particularly the late French writers, Mirbel, Turpin, Poiteau and Dutrochet, who, in this path, are far in advance of their English brethren. Indeed, the latter advanced so far that he has been obliged to retrace at last some of his steps, though his merits on the whole are unquestionably very high.

It is probable that many, though perhaps not all, in this assembly, are aware that to Monsieur Dutrochet was awarded the medal of the French Academy, for his researches on the Motilité, or cause of motion in plants,—particularly with regard to the flow of sap. This he ascribed to a sort of galvanism, or intracapillary electricity; to the two currents of which, or, more properly, to the motions produced by them, he gave the melodious epithets of *endosmose erosmose*. His experiments and his reasonings were, however, afterwards shown to be fallacious; and, with a degree of candor and love of truth, more honorable to him than many golden medals, he retracted his opinions.

Another gentleman has still more recently come forth with the publication of a series of experiments and inferences, which are said to prove satisfactorily, at least to himself, that *caloric*, in its annual and diurnal fluctuations, is alone the cause of movement in the sap. It were well, perhaps, if both these gentlemen had been satisfied with attributing the phenomenon to an inherent vital action, without puzzling themselves with a vain search after first causes,—which always leaves the most successful inquirer exactly where he set out.

Although observation is the faculty principally employed, in the study of Natural History, and should always be on the alert to surprise Nature in the midst of her operations, and thus detect her secrets; yet, in some cases, and to a limited extent, experiments may be employed to extort them from her. But the Naturalist cannot, like the Chemist, regulate the conditions of the phenomena he studies; nor can he separate the elementary parts from each other, in the objects he examines. Such objects usually come under his view in a complex form; and he can decompose them and analyze their component parts only in *thought*.

What a variety of conditions, for example, are necessary to vegetable life! If, in attempting to analyze the nature of life, we were to separate from it any of those requisite conditions, its duration must instantly cease, and the object of our researches be frustrated; so that, in matters like this, the utmost we can ever expect to attain is but an approximation to the truth.

Mere observation will, however, avail but little without comparison. We must observe attentively the same body in the various positions in which it is placed at different times by Nature; and we must compare different bodies with each other until we can recognise any invariable relations, which may exist between their structure and the phenomena they exhibit. Thus may such bodies, when diligently observed and carefully compared with each other, be considered as experiments ready prepared by the hand of Nature; who may be supposed to add to, or subtract from each, in the manner the Chemist does in his laboratory with the inert materials subject to his control,—and herself to present us with the result of such additions and subtractions. In this way we may arrive at some knowledge of the laws which regulate the phenomena of Natural History, strictly speaking, subject to our observation; and which are employed by the great Governor of the universe with the same determinate precision, as those which are opened to our view by the general sciences.

The reproduction of vegetable forms is unquestionably a vital process, but there is no reason to believe that more may not be known respecting it, than has yet been developed; and it is *possible* future researches may throw such light upon its different modes, and the modifications of which it is susceptible from the varied conditions under which it may take place, as will enable art to effect a proposed end, by supplying and arranging those conditions. The whole surface of the globe has now been so thoroughly explored, that we can scarcely expect the *discovery* of any very important addition to our kitchen, fruit, or even flower garden; our principal resource, therefore, for improvement in this respect, lies in the production of new varieties. To avail ourselves of this, with any determinate degree of success, requires that knowledge to which I have just alluded. This field is still open to the enterprising physiologist, and promises a rich reward to him whose industry and skill shall compel it to yield a harvest.

With regard to the other departments of botanical science, viz. Glossology, which teaches the names of the different parts of plants; Phytography, which treats of nomenclature, and the art of describing plants, so that they may be easily recognised; Taxonomy, or the theory of classification and arrangement, applied to plants; Botanical Geography, which teaches the natural distribution of plants over the earth's surface, showing their relations to temperature, elevation, soil, &c, as well as the several minor divisions adopted by modern writers, such as Historical, Agricultural, Medical and Economical Botany,—they may all be studied with an advantage, often essential, and always important, by every one who would have his ground or his intellect cultivated in the most pleasant and useful manner. Picturesque or Landscape Gardening, the period for the study of which is now dawning upon our country, is a subject involving principles profoundly and intricately connected with the most refined and with the most recondite speculations, which have occupied the human mind. Conscious that no notice I could now make of it, or of the studies connected with it, would convey any adequate or satisfactory exposition of the subject, I leave it entire, for a more convenient time and a more able hand.

To be concluded next week.

DOCT. ELMER'S GREAT OX.

The great ox, Leopard, owned by Dr William Elmer of Bridgeton, N. J. was recently weighed alive, by a patent balance made expressly for that purpose, and his weight found to be three thousand two hundred and eighty six pounds.

A large placard was hawked about in London, recently, as follows:—

'Dram-drinkers must expect to be the first victims of the Cholera!'

COMMUNICATIONS.

FOR THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

Dedham, Ms. Feb. 17th, 1832.

DEAR SIR,—Inclosed is a letter to me from Wm. Robert Prince, Esq. and my reply, which I send you for publication in your valuable paper. Should you, upon perusal, think them worth spreading before the public, you will much oblige your humble servant, by letting them appear in your next paper.

Very respectfully,

Your obliged friend and servant, J. H. COBB.

To the Editor of N. E. Farmer.

Lin. Bot. Garden, Dec. 15, 1831.

J. H. COBB, ESQ.

SIR,—Your favor of 20th October, in reply to mine of 15th, came to hand on 13th ult. and I am pleased to find that the explanation made and your subsequent examinations, have produced such conviction on your mind, as to authorize the remark therein, that you are satisfied that we '*have the real Morus multicaulis and were the first persons who sent it into Massachusetts.*' The cause of your misapprehension we now fully understand, and we feel also assured that you will render justice to our exertions to preserve an undeviating accuracy.

As we have been co-laborers in the same cause with yourself, I avail myself of the present occasion to make some comments on the subject. In the years 1787 and 88, the present Wm. Prince, sen. raised an immense number of silk worms and made various experiments in regard thereto, and in 1789 he had silk gloves manufactured at Philadelphia. The worms being well fed and attended to, spun their cocoons in twentytwo days and they were of the largest size. The silk, when prepared for the loom and boiled in soapsuds made from the white soap, was perfectly white and glossy, and proved very strong. He constructed a reel of pasteboard, to wind two skeins on at a time; twelve of the silk worms threads formed one thread of silk for each skein, which passing through a wire with two holes or rings, the wire being connected with the axle of the wheel, causes the thread to be wound in a zigzag manner upon the reel. The silk, after being doubled and twisted, contained 144 of the natural threads; that number being requisite to form a thread coarse enough to be woven by the finest loom for stockings and gloves, then in Philadelphia, according to a sample sent by the weaver.

In the spring of 1826, when the subject of silk culture created an universal interest among our citizens, being myself desirous to concentrate every information possible, relative thereto, I sent to France for every publication connected with the subject; and in return, received *eighteen* distinct works. The Hon. Richard Rush, then Secretary of the Treasury, being called upon about that period by Congress, to prepare a complete Manual upon that subject — my father, Mr Wm. Prince, had the satisfaction of replying to a number of communications from him and Dr Mease, and of imparting the informaton desired from him in the progress of that work; and some of the publications which I had imported, were also loaned them at their particular request, they not being obtainable elsewhere. I am happy also to add that our intelligent fellow-citizen, Dr Felix Pascalis, has found them useful to him in the course of his scientific elucidations, and even at the present day I believe duplicates of some of them are not to be found in our country.

The same sentiment which dictated the importation of books, influenced me to import all the requisite trees; and I forthwith ordered from France, Italy and elsewhere, every variety of the Mulberry, used for feeding silk worms. The result was, that the Morus multicaulis, *now so called*, was comprised in those importations under *another name*, and its culture had already been considerably extended in our nurseries, before it had received its present title or its superiority had been made known.

Wishing to disseminate these new varieties, I freely presented them to those interested in the silk culture, and among others, to Gideon B. Smith, Esq. editor of the American Farmer, and if I mistake not, his tree of the Morus multicaulis, which is only one of the *progeny* from my original trees, was sent him before the same kind had been imported by any other person. That gentleman recently stated to me, that he had near 150 fine trees which he had raised from the single one of the M. multicaulis, which I had sent him, and that he had also reared a number from the other varieties. I mention these facts merely to show that we have not been guilty of culpable indifference to the great national object.

Supposing it may also be satisfactory to you to test the respective merits of the new varieties, I herewith transmit you six trees, each one of a distinct kind, as per invoice annexed; and as no one can feel a more ardent desire for the development of our country's resources, and for the attainment of a *perfect* national independence, than my father and self, no one will exult more at that ample success, which we feel confident will consummate the exertions which you and others are making, to advance the silk culture.

Very respectfully,

WM. ROBERT PRINCE.

Dedham, Ms. Dec. 28, 1831.

WM. R. PRINCE, ESQ.

SIR,—Yours of the 15th inst. was received several days since and is now before me; various engagements have prevented me from giving a more prompt reply. I have received, with great satisfaction and pleasure, the trees which you have sent, consisting of six different varieties of the Mulberry, according to the invoice, viz.

1	Morus	multicaulis.
2	"	constantinopolitana rozea.
3	"	tartarica.
4	"	lucida lobata.
5	"	laciniata.
6	"	macrophylla.

I have no doubt that upon further acquaintance with them, important advantages will result. It is by no means yet fully ascertained, what variety of the white mulberry will best suit the different parts of our extensive country, and it is only from repeated experiments and careful observations, that the most useful knowledge in the arts is to be obtained. I know of but few to whom greater credit than yourself is due, for early attention and accurate observation in the important departments of botany and horticulture.

I am satisfied that the mistake, as regards the trees sent me and mentioned in my Manual, page 22, arose from misapprehension and from the species not being sufficiently designated among the great variety in your catalogue; and on reference to the invoice sent me, I find that the trees sent are not therein designated as the *Morus multicaulis*, but as the *Broad leaved Chinese Mulberry*, by which I understood to be meant the Morus multicaulis, but it appears that there are more varieties of the broad leaved Chinese mulberry, than I was acquainted with. I saw the trees from your original stock, in the garden of Gideon B. Smith, Esq. of Baltimore, during the last summer. I also saw, as I suppose, some of the books which you had the liberality to import and put into the hands of the most eminent and respectable Dr Pascalis. The instructions contained in them for rearing silk insects, are not well calculated for our country, though they furnish much valuable information.

I regret that Mr Wm. Prince, senior, your respected father, did not persevere in his patriotic labors in the culture of silk; although for his actual efforts he must be considered a benefactor to his country. I fear it will be a great while before we shall raise silk enough for home consumption. I am obliged to use the China silk chiefly in my manufactory; it is running on my spindles now. Instead of pursuing the old fashioned way, of twisting one thread at a time, I have a *throwsling mill* of 164 spindles, and am now throwing silk off from 16 to 20 cocoons.

I hope to be able to supply my mill altogether from American silk in a few years, but the art of filature is so imperfect at present that I cannot depend upon it, but use chiefly foreign raw silk.

Wishing you all success in the development of horticultural resources, and particularly in the culture of the vine and mulberry,

I remain, respectfully,

Your friend and servant, J. H. COBB.

CULTURE OF RUTA BAGA, &c.

Portsmouth, N. H. Feb. 10th, 1832.

To the Editor of the N. E. Farmer.

SIR,—Observing in your paper some remarks upon the culture of Ruta Baga, and having made an experiment in a small way upon it myself, the past summer, I will give you the results of my experience, and some of my ideas upon the subject. I most earnestly hope that nothing which I say, will occasion an unfriendly feeling on the part of any one; it being my disposition and determination to consider every one engaged in increasing the extent and precision of our agricultural knowledge, as a fellow-laborer in the cause of truth.

The autumn before last, I took up, amongst others, a piece of land that had not been ploughed for some years, and was covered in some places with a strong red-top sward, in others with a beggarly growth of clover, and in some places with almost nothing; chiefly awarm, dry and rather good gravelly loam than otherwise, and the rest of a soft, reddish sandy one; like most of the land cultivated at present, of very bad reputation. The current in this quarter is in favor, either of the deep, strong clays, which are not uncommon in this vicinity, and which grow for several years, with very high manuring, fair crops of timothy; but neither potatoes, Indian corn, nor anything else we grow, which is adapted to the really rich land, of which there is also abundance.

This patch I ploughed in autumn to get it out

of the way. I am not a particular advocate for ploughing at that season. It made about five and a half acres, out of upwards thirtyfive which I ploughed, chiefly myself, that year. I hauled upon four and a quarter acres of it, thirtythree large cart-loads of sea-weed and rock-weed. I learn from your paper, (to show the difference of nomenclature at so short a distance,) that sea-weed in the vicinity of Boston, means eel-grass, —here, it means kelp. This shows the importance of *terms*, to understand one another. Most of this was put on before ploughing. I was unable to discover much difference in the crop of corn, where it was laid on, afterwards. I say this as an acknowledgment to be fair with every body; as I am an advocate for all manures being ploughed in at all times. This patch was ploughed nearly as I should wish to break up gravelly loam, but not quite; it just touched the sub-soil; I should prefer turning a little of it on the top, if ploughed in the autumn. I intended to have laid on eight loads of sea-manure to each acre; but had no time to haul more; and one and a quarter acres was left, on which I laid large loads of slaughter-house manure in the spring. I planted the sea-weed part with Indian corn, which I also dunged in the holes. On this subject I have this opinion. The season of 1830 I believe corn was the better for it. That of 1831, I am inclined to believe it really did as much harm as good, and was a total loss of labor and manure; forcing the ears forward before their time. The remaining one acre and a quarter I sowed with mangel wurtzel seed, the beginning of May, in rows, and it was done with extreme rapidity. I have always had a high opinion of this root, and have now; and it is stated by all writers, to be less liable to the fly than the Swedish turnip. But now for the facts:—The whole of them were destroyed, totally, by some fly or bug, except a few plants, which did not do extraordinarily well after all; and on the 1st of July, I ploughed it lightly over again, with its weeds, and sowed it to the turnip, broad-cast, as a waste crop. The turnips came up beautifully, but the weeds still better; and being determined to see the issue, I set one of the men to weed it by hand. He began at one end and went on to the other; but by the time he had got a third part of the way, it was too late. When I sow the turnip again, I shall sow it the 1st of June and hoe it regularly. From the one-third of an acre which was saved, though sowed broad-cast, I got at least, two hundred bushels; and I do not believe that the same land, with the same culture, would have produced more than fifty of potatoes. It had onit rather more than one load of slaughter-house stuff, and no other manure.

As to the value of the turnip, as a crop, I agree with Mr J. B. as to his inference; so far as that, I think it deserves a place as our third crop, with Indian corn and potatoes. But I wholly differ from him as to his premises. I do not think a ton of turnips contains half the nutriment of a ton of potatoes; nor a bushel, a third part of a bushel of potatoes. But now for other considerations:—The seed costs but little; it is, however, said to be of the highest importance that it should be of the best sort, (I believe the seed I obtained of Mr Russell, to be of that character.) The sowing costs much less time at an important season; the hoeings, the same. It will grow much better than the potato on sandy land; but do not let me be understood to say that it requires land less rich than the potato; or that the potato will grow best on stiff land. It produces a great deal of top, which may be fed in the field, and of which all animals appear to be outrageously fond; and sheep are to an immense extent, I am told, fattened on the turnip in the field, without much trouble, in various parts of England, and you get an immensely large crop of the turnip then. To be fair, again, however, I will state that my colts did not like them; and that though the cows gave a great increase of milk, it was injured in taste; as also the butter, though of a beautiful color. The turnip-husbandry, however, I take to rest on another foundation, on which I shall explain my notions.

The true *intrinsic* value of a crop to a *farmer*, is in the nutriment it contains, and in the proportion between *the exhaustion of the soil* and *what it returns to it*. For instance, on good land, when it does not blight, you may get twenty bushels of wheat off of an acre. We hear of much larger crops, but this is a good crop, on any but the very richest land, or with high cultivation. You get, then, perhaps, two thousand pounds of grain and straw off an acre, which can be returned to the soil. This is the smallest proportion of manure to exhaustion, we know of; and wheat is of little *intrinsic* value to the farmer. The price has nothing to do with the intrinsic value; wheat will always command the best price for bread, and in a new country it best bears transportation, from the proportion of its price to its bulk.

On the same land, generally, you will get forty bushels of Indian corn; except, perhaps, that there may be some difference in the kind of land which wheat prefers. On the sea-board, the proportion of Indian corn to wheat, is greater; even when the wheat does not blight, you get then forty bushels of grain, nearly as nourishing as wheat and an abundance of fodder; say 4500 lbs. of crop in all off an acre, which is to go back; the soil being no more exhausted than by the wheat, if it is as much. Indian corn is then of far higher *intrinsic* value to a farmer, as a crop, than wheat is.

On the same land with the various deviations from this rule, from the crops preferring particular kinds of soils, you will get two hundred bushels of potatoes. You will, here, get generally more in proportion. The two hundred bushels of potatoes will contain about as much nutriment, as the forty of Indian corn with the fodder; but not so good in its nature for stock. There is *no substitute* for grain. That the crop of potatoes will weigh on the ground 14,000 lbs. or nearly that, the roots alone, which is to go back; and though it is *my* belief that they exhaust the land rather more than the Indian corn, and that they are not so good for stock, (for horses, though I have frequently fed them on them, I do not like them for continuance,) yet the return to the soil is so vastly greater, as to more than bring up the difference.

On the same land, you will get, barring the fly, (of which I know nothing; it is seen they let my turnips go, and killed the beets, and which I forgot to mention, for there was some turnip seed among the beet seed, the fly or bug left the turnip *when* he took the beet;) at least, 400 or 600 bushels of turnips. This crop with the tops, will *not* more than equal the crop of potatoes or the Indian corn in nourishment. I take care to claim no more than I think the turnip deserves; but I think it better food than potatoes for them. But now there is a great superiority in the return to the soil of the turnip, over the other crops. The crop of turnips, all told, will weigh from 22,000 to 34,000 lbs. all of which is to go back, and though it may exhaust the soil more than either of the others, yet the manure brings up the difference; and they reduce the soil to a great state of fineness. I do not pretend that there may not be a great difference in the quality of the manure, but to take the extreme cases, it seems impossible that the 30,000 lbs. of turnip crop should not return more to the soil, than the 2000 lbs. of wheat crop.

The best use of the turnip crop seems to be the feeding them off in the field, with fatting sheep; hurdling them on what they can eat at a time. This system, I am *told*, I *read*, I am *led to believe*, for I *know* nothing of English farming, is practised to an immense extent in England; the next crop in rotation being clover. No doubt some of your readers are able to inform us about it. Our climate prevents this being done to the same extent as it is there done, in the winter. The turnip may stand slight frosts, but it will not stand hard ones; as I know by experience. It is notorious that the county of Norfolk, with the poorest and generally sandiest and marshiest soil in England, has been *said* to owe its great agricultural prosperity for the last half century, to the turnip-husbandry; perhaps the claying of land and general intelligence helped the matter. This was before the Swedish turnip made its appearance in England, whether it now supersedes the English there, I do not know; but I understand the Swedish turnip has the very highest reputation in England.

DISEASES IN HORSES.

As to coughs in horses, though I earnestly beg not to be understood to affect an extraordinary knowledge of the subject, though I once made a good deal of study of horses, and have always endeavored to expose the system of quackery which infects the United States, as well as other countries on this subject, I can state that there are no safe remedies for common coughs, but those used for human subjects; that for the distemper the horse should neither be worked nor fed; that for chronic coughs there is no cure, only palliatives, of which bleeding is *not* one; and that young horses sometimes have coughs for a year, and yet entirely recover from them. JOHN L. ELWYN.

PRODUCTIVE PUMPKIN VINE.

Mr Fessenden—After seeing your account of Mr Whiting's Squash Vine, of Lancaster, Mass. which produced 228 lbs. I endeavored to persuade Mr J. Cook of this place, to report his crop of pumpkins, but he declines, as I presume from modesty, or from an apprehension that it would not be credited. I am therefore induced to give the information, as I received it from himself and the members of his family.

The plant came up single, accidentally, among his early potatoes, and as the potatoes were gathered, occupied the whole space and continued to extend itself until the frost checked its growth, when it contained, from the largest down to the size of a lemon, upwards of one hundred and forty, (and there were many more just set, with the blossom unshed,) seventytwo of which were of good size for use; and twentytwo which were selected for culinary purposes, weighed from 28 to 48 pounds. It is to be regretted that they were not all weighed and the length of the vine and branches measured, which ran to an incredible length, and were producing new sets faster and thicker, when the frost

checked the plant, than at any other previous time. This pumpkin is different from any which Mr Cook had ever before cultivated or seen. Its shape was, generally, like that of a cheese-pumpkin, but the ribs were much more broad and deeply scoriated; when growing, of a lighter or duller green; and when ripe, of a nankin color, or rather darker, heavy for their size, fine grain and small cavity for seeds. The one which he was so obliging as to send me, though of a medium size, with reference to the crop, is as much as I can well lift with one hand, by the stem. The flesh through the ribs, is three and a half inches thick.

Bridgeport, Ct. B.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

Boston, Wednesday Evening, Feb. 22, 1832.

INJURIOUS EFFECTS OF LIVERPOOL SALT.

An article was published in the *New York Medical Repository*, vol. 1, p. 241, new series, (an able work, formerly conducted by Dr Miller and Dr Mitchell,) on the subject of 'the *spoiling of beef, pork*, and *butter*, when cured by Liverpool salt, &c.' In a letter from Dr Mitchell to Charles Caldwell, M. D. from which the following is abridged and extracted; the bad qualities of that substance are forcibly represented.

In the course of trade between America and Great Britain, it has become the misfortune of the United States to be visited with frequent cargoes of salt from Liverpool. This article is prepared on the western coast of England, where coal can be bought at a low price, by boiling ocean-water, saturated with the rock-salt of Norwich, in large and shallow pans of iron. The salt which remains, after the water has been evaporated by force of fire, is called *pan-salt*, and is a medley of saline substances. It is very different in its qualities from the pure muriate of soda.

The loss of property and life consequent upon the employment of this salt, is prodigious. Experience, year after year, has proved it to be incapable of preserving our beef from corruption. Often has this important article of food been found to be tainted, the very autumn in which it has been packed in barrels. Besides the sacrifice of property, we find that the employment of Liverpool salt in the packing of beef and pork, leaves them liable to corrupt; and the consequences of this corruption are pestilential exhalations, stirring up yellow fevers and other malignant distempers in the neighborhoods, cities and vessels, where the bodies of those slaughtered animals are deposited.

The butter of New York market has also been rendered worse, if not absolutely spoiled, by the same kind of salt. Beguiled by its fine and showy exterior, the citizens have used it extensively in our counties famous for grazing and dairies. In many cases it has supplanted the old fashioned coarse or sun-made salt. Wherever the substitution has been made, it has been with a pernicious effect. The butter so salted, does not keep so well, loses its agreeable flavor, and acquires rather a disagreeable scent. The difference between butter put up with this salt, and with natural crystallized salt, is so great that our wholesale and retail grocers can distinguish it at once, by the smell, on piercing or opening a firkin. The sweet flavor and nice odor, which pure sea salt gives, is altogether wanting in that which is seasoned with the other.

And thus as Liverpool salt is the remote agent of so much loss, damage and misery in the United States, it is high time to cease both to buy and consume it. In its stead, salt from the Bay of Biscay, Portugal, Isle of May, or the Bahamas, may be employed with perfect safety.

The fault of Liverpool salt, and of all other salt obtained from sea water, by force of fire or by boiling, is its admixture with foreign ingredients, known by the technical names of *slack* and *bittern*. These usually adhere to the salt in considerable quantities. They have no antiseptic virtues, but possess a directly contrary effect. Sea salt, formed by *natural* evaporation and crystallization, has very little mixture with these foul and foreign ingredients.

☞ The Trustees of the Massachusetts Society for promoting Agriculture, intending to publish another No. of the Repository which will contain their full Reports, have given below only the names and sums to notify the successful competitors.

PREMIUMS AWARDED BY THE SEVERAL COMMITTEES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING AGRICULTURE.

The Committee on vegetable and grain crops award

To Mr Payson Williams of Fitchburg, *Twenty* dollars for the greatest crop of potatoes, being 584 bushels on an acre.

To Mr Joseph Perkins of Newbury, *Twenty* dollars for the greatest crop of onions, being 646½ bushels on an acre.

To Mr John Wilson of Deerfield, *Twenty* dollars for the greatest crop of winter rye, being 34½ bushels on an acre.

To Mr Henry Sprague of Princeton, for the greatest crop of Indian corn, being 109 bushels on an acre, the mode in which the quantity was estimated differing from the mode required in the offer of premiums—a gratuity of *Ten* dollars.

P. C. BROOKS, *Chairman.*

—

The Committee on Farms,

Report a gratuity to the Rev. Morrill Allen of Pembroke, of *Fifty* dollars, for the example he has set of skillful and judicious husbandry. They also report a gratuity to Jonathan Allen, Esq. of Pittsfield, of *Thirty* dollars, for the care he has taken to introduce upon his farm, vegetable products and choice fruits, and especially his attention in the cultivation of potatoes. Mention is also made of the great merit of Peter Thacher, Esq. of Attleborough, in subduing and bringing to a state of good cultivation a farm, which a few years since consisted of rough, exhausted and profitless land. WM. PRESCOTT, *Chairman.*

—

The Committee on Inventions, Experiments, Trees, &c. report, though none of the claimants are strictly entitled to a premium,

To James Thacher, Esq. M. D. of Plymouth, a gratuity of *Ten* dollars, for the communication of his interesting researches, with a view of preventing the ravages of the bee moth.

To the Rev. M. Barbour of Byfield, Mass. a gratuity of *Ten* dollars, (who has deposited at the Agricultural Warehouse his ingenious apparatus,) 'for the more easy and effectual acquisition of the labor of the bees without their extermination.'

To the same gentleman a gratuity of *Ten* dollars, for his mode of preventing the ravages of the bee moth. JOHN WELLES, *Chairman.*

☞ Models of Thacher's, Barbour's, and Beard's new Bee Hives, may be seen at the Agricultural Warehouse, North Market Street.

AGRICULTURAL STATE CONVENTION.

A convention of the delegates and other citizens from the several counties in this state, met yesterday afternoon, in the Assembly Chamber, to take into consideration the propriety of establishing a State Agricultural Society. J. Le Ray De Chaumont, of the County of Jefferson, was appointed Chairman, and Jesse Buel and Amos Briggs Secretaries. One hundred and four delegates were present, representing the Counties of Albany, Columbia, Clinton, Duchess, Essex, Jefferson, Monroe, Montgomery, Oswego, Oonndaga, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Steuben, Schenectady and Yates.

Various propositions were submitted; when the convention adjourned until to-day.

Albany, N.Y. Argus, of 15th inst.

Salem Lyceum.—During the present week, the lecture before this institution was delivered by the Rev. Mr Colman. The subject was Eloquence, which was happily and forcibly illustrated by the speaker. Mr Colman being about to leave us as a citizen, very properly took the occasion to address to his fellow townsmen present there, a few parting and pertinent words. We, and we believe in common with all, sincerely regret the occasion that takes from us, one who has bound himself to us by some of the most useful and most endearing qualities of human nature.—*Salem Observer.*

Preserved Apples.—Mr Alexander Walsh, of Lansinburgh, has presented the Editor of the N. Y. Farmer some apples, the growth of 1830—the russet grown by Mr Walsh, preserved in bran and in sand. Those in the latter were in the finest state. Also a moderate sized red and white apple, raised by a farmer east of Lansingburgh, and preserved in sand by Mr F. Fordham, of the same place. This was as fair, and in as sound a condition as though the growth of last season.

Rail Roads in France.—The *Messager des Chambres* says, 'We are much occupied at Paris with rail-roads.—Besides the road from Paris to Pontoise, the contract for which has just been granted to Messrs Henry, Maffet, and De Rushby, the companies have projected the making rail roads from Paris to Lyons, and from Strasburgh to Paris. It is said that Sir Henry Parnell has proposed a railway from Calais to Paris. Should a similar communication be established between London and Dover, from sixteen to seventeen hours would then suffice for the journey from Paris to London.

The best oak wood could be bought at three dollars per cord in Baltimore on Friday last. So much for the rail-road.

To Correspondents.—"Rusticus" in reply to "A Practical Horticulturist" was received too late for insertion this week—an article from Doct. Green on Bots in Horses, will soon appear—many other communications are in the printer's hands.

☞ We would inform our facetious *legal* friend, who displays much acumen without acerbity, 'for that whereas' we lately *republished* the following sentence from a useful and much read volume, 'It is cheaper to buy a large mackerel for nine-pence than two for four-pence-half-penny,' (the words '*small ones*' after two, being omitted in the original,) that the error complained of is a *small* one. And should he meet us with a 'demurrer,' and not permit us to '*amend* the declaration,' we will 'plead to the jurisdiction of the Court;' and prove that his action was brought *coram non Judice*, of course Plff will be 'nonsuited and taxed with costs.'

New Work on Fruits, &c.

JOHN B. RUSSELL and CARTER & HENDEE, Boston; G. THORBURN & SONS, New York; GREGG & ELLIOTT and CARY & HART, Philadelphia; S. C. PARKHURST, Cincinnati, and WM. THORBURN, Albany, have in press, and will publish in a few weeks,

THE

NEW AMERICAN ORCHARDIST,

OR AN ACCOUNT OF THE

MOST VALUABLE FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

ADAPTED TO CULTIVATION

IN THE

CLIMATE OF THE UNITED STATES,

WITH THEIR

MODES OF CULTURE AND MANAGEMENT; REMEDIES FOR THE MALADIES TO WHICH THEY ARE SUBJECT TO FROM CANKER WORMS, BORERS, ET.C.

BY WM. KENRICK.

This work will contain particular descriptions of from 700 to 800 select varieties of fruit, adapted to our varied climate, and will include the Olive and some most useful tropical fruits which may be successfully cultivated in our Southern territories.

The different modes by which the new varieties of fruit have been obtained, will be described; modes of pruning and training, by which trees, &c, are rendered fruitful; of grafting and inoculation; and of the modes of propagating usually adopted.

It will contain descriptions (besides old sorts) of from 100 to 120 *new varieties* of Pears of UNDOUBTED EXCELLENCE; from 60 to 80 of which are not particularly described and condensed in any one European volume which has hitherto reached us; some American, but chiefly the new and most approved Flemish varieties.

The descriptions are partly from personal observation, and from assistance received from some of the most intelligent horticulturists of New England; from the best writers of America, and the best foreign productions; the descriptions of Van Mons, the splendid edition of New Duhamel, the Pomological Magazine, the superb Pyrus Malus Brentfordiensis of Ronald, and Lindley's Guide to the Orchard and Kitchen Garden. From these it has been the constant aim, to cull from their *extremely varied* and *select lists*, all that was *beautiful, excellent, productive* and *profitable*.

From these will be formed *another select list*, of those sorts already approved *with us*, as the *best and most productive*.

In regard to the *new varieties* of fruits of America and of Europe, it will be the aim of the writer, to render this work particularly interesting, and adapted to the different sections of our highly favored country.

The very best of late English works, we refer to those just named, those celebrated works which are beyond all doubt *so admirably adapted to the climate and country for which they were principally designed*, and as auxiliaries to us, are extremely deficient in regard to those native fruits which are with us so highly esteemed. We will instance some; with others it is even still worse.

In their description of apples we find very few, scarce half a dozen, of our fine native varieties described or even named: those fruits which agree so well with us—the selections from the innumerable native orchards of our country during two centuries.

They describe but *one* variety of our *native* pears, and in the place of those not described, they recommend to us other varieties, *the very sorts we have long since rejected*.

They describe but *two* varieties of our native peaches, so much admired by travellers; some, the finest of the South of Europe are equally unnoticed,—the fine selections from the vast native orchards of this fruit at the South, for distillation,—all these, the productions of our own and other equally favored climates, are rejected from their lists as *'worthless;'* not being adapted to their hostile seasons and latitude, and not coming to full maturity and excellence, even on the walls to which their cultivation is confined.

A few engravings may be furnished, such as a plan of the Thomery mode of training Grape Vines; the quenouille mode of training trees, &c.

It will be comprised in one volume of about 300 pages, and will be furnished for about $1 per copy. Feb. 22,

Hemp and Flax Seed.

CASH will be paid by the subscriber for a few bushels of fresh HEMP and FLAX SEED, well cleaned, of *American* growth, for sowing; to be delivered immediately. J. B. RUSSELL, No. 52 North Market st.
Feb. 22.

The Horticultural Garden of the late Andrew Parmentier, is offered for Sale.

THE reputation of this establishment is not confined to the vicinity of New York, but is well known throughout the United States, and different parts of Europe. It is situated two miles from the city of New York, at Brooklyn, Long Island, at the junction of the Jamaica and Flatbush Roads, and contains 24 acres.

The Grounds are in a very high state of cultivation, and laid out with judgment and taste. The situation is very healthy and the view very extensive, commanding the bay, the city, &c. The Garden is enclosed by a pointed stone fence, and inside of that is a hawthorn hedge. The Nursery contains a fine and extensive collection of Fruit, Forest, and Ornamental Trees; also, a splendid collection of Roses and Herbaceous Plants,—the object of the late proprietor having always been to collect every new variety

On the premises are a Dwelling House, two Laborers' Houses, seven Cisterns, and a never-failing Pump of excellent water; four Green and Hot Houses, containing a rich variety of rare exotics.

The advantages to be derived by any person who wishes to engage in the occupation of Gardening, by the purchase of this property, are very great; the business already secured is very extensive, and the prospect of increased encouragement is such as to warrant the belief that the purchase of the property will amply repay the enterprise of the one who may engage in the business.

Terms will be made known by applying to Mrs PARMENTIER, on the premises.

N. B.—Any orders sent to Mrs P. will be promptly and carefully executed. 6t
Feb. 16.

Situation Wanted.

A Gardener, who considers himself thoroughly acquainted with his business, in all its branches, is familiar with forcing fruits and vegetables, is desirous of a good situation. He has a wife and two children; has lived upwards of seven years at his last place, and can produce satisfactory recommendations from his last and all his other employers. Inquire at the Farmer office.

A Farmer Wanted.

WANTED to hire, in the vicinity of Boston, a man of middle age, who is thoroughly acquainted with farming in all its branches. Inquire at this office.

Bremen Geese.

FOR Sale, 3 or 4 pair of large Bremen Geese, of undoubted purity of blood. Inquire at the N. E. Farmer office. 4t Feb. 15.

Farm for Sale.

ON the road leading from Newton, west parish Meetinghouse, to Waltham Factory, containing from 50 to 75 acres of Land, well proportioned into mowing and tillage—also, House, Barn and Outhouses with the same. Said farm is well watered, and has a valuable fruit Orchard. Apply to EPH. MCNAMARA.
Feb. 15. 6t

Fresh White Mulberry Seed.

JUST received at J. B. Russell's Seed Store, Nos. 51 & 52 North Market Street—

A small supply of fresh and genuine White Mulberry Seed, warranted the growth of the past season, from one of the greatest Mulberry orchards in Mansfield, Connecticut. Short directions for its culture accompany the seed.

PRICES OF COUNTRY PRODUCE.

		FROM	TO
APPLES, russettings,	barrel	3 00	4 00
ASHES, pot, first sort,	ton	120 00	125 00
pearl, first sort,	"	112 00	115 00
BEANS, white,	bushel	90	1 00
BEEF, mess,	barrel	10 50	11 00
prime,	"	7 75	8 00
Cargo, No. 1,	"	7 00	7 50
BUTTER, inspected, No. 1, new,	pound	16	18
CHEESE, new milk,	"	6	7
skimmed milk,	"		3
FLAXSEED,	bushel	1 12	1 50
FLOUR, Baltimore, Howard-street,	barrel	6 00	6 25
Genesee,	"	6 25	6 50
Alexandria,	"	5 62	5 75
Baltimore, wharf,	"	5 62	5 75
GRAIN, Corn, Northern,	bushel	85	90
Corn, Southern yellow,	"	75	80
Rye,	"	95	98
Barley,	"	1 12	1 20
Oats,	"	48	50
HAY,	cwt.	65	70
HOG'S LARD, first sort, new,	"	9 00	9 75
HOPS, 1st quality,	"	11 00	12 00
LIME,	cask	1 25	1 30
PLAISTER PARIS retails at	ton	3 25	3 37
PORK, clear,	barrel	16 00	17 00
Navy mess,	"	13 00	4 00
Cargo, No. 1,	"	13 00	13 50
SEEDS, Herd's Grass,	bushel	2 00	2 25
Red Top, northern,	"	67	75
Red Clover, northern,	pound	10	11
TALLOW, tried,	cwt.	9 50	10 00
WOOL, Merino, full blood, washed.	pound	55	60
Merino, mix'd with Saxony,	"	65	70
Merino, ¾ths, washed,	"	52	55
Merino, half blood,	"	48	50
Merino, quarter,	"	43	45
Native, washed,	"	40	42
Northern pulled. Pulled superfine,	"	60	62
1st Lambs,	"	55	58
2d, "	"	38	40
3d, "	"	28	30
1st Spinning,	"	45	48

Southern pulled Wool is about 5 cents less.

PROVISION MARKET.

BEEF, best pieces,	pound	8	10
PORK, fresh, best pieces,	"	6	7
whole hogs,	"	5½	6¼
VEAL,	"	6	8
MUTTON,	"	4	8
POULTRY,	"	9	12
BUTTER, keg and tub,	"	12	15
lump, best,	"	16	18
EGGS, retail,	dozen	17	20
MEAL, Rye, retail,	bushel		1 17
Indian, retail,	"		1 00
POTATOES,	"	37	40
CIDER, (according to quality,)	barrel	4 00	5 00

Seeds for Country Dealers.

TRADERS in the country, who may wish to keep an assortment of genuine Garden Seeds for sale, are informed they can be furnished at the New England Farmer office, No. 50½ North Market street, Boston, with boxes containing a complete assortment of the seeds mostly used in a kitchen garden, on as favorable terms as they can be procured in this country, neatly done up in small papers, at 6 and 12 cents each—warranted to be of the growth of 1831, and of *the very first quality*. ORNAMENTAL FLOWER SEEDS will be added on the same terms, when ordered, as well as PEAS, BEANS, EARLY and SWEET CORN, &c, of different sorts.

☞ The seeds vended at this establishment, are put up on an improved plan, each package being accompanied with short directions on its management, and packed in the neatest style.—Traders are requested to call and examine for themselves.

—ALSO—

GRASS SEEDS of all kinds,—Herds or Timothy, Red Top, Red and White Clover, Lucerne, Orchard Grass, Tall Meadow Oats Grass, &c, &c, at the lowest market prices, wholesale and retail. Feb. 15.

Lead Pipe and Sheet Lead.

LEAD PIPE and Sheet Lead of all sizes and dimensions, constantly for sale at No. 110 State street, by
ALBERT FEARING & CO.

MISCELLANY.

From a late London paper.

COURT OF REQUESTS: GUILDHALL.—*A Horse Shaved.*—A gentleman, named Wells, was summoned before the Commissioners by Thomas Field, a hair-dresser, for the sum of thirty shillings, the price demanded by the plaintiff for shaving a horse.

The plaintiff swore that the defendant brought to him a horse to be shaved, for the purpose of 'showing a new coat' upon the animal. The horse had been attempted to be shaved by the defendant, on part of the stern, but for want of skill in the art, the poor beast was most miserably notched. The defendant got tired after four hours' work, and then handed over the job to the plaintiff. The razors of the shop were in great requisition for ten days, during which time the shaving was going forward, and the plaintiff was obliged, as he proceeded, to wrap up the bald part to protect the horse from cold. The Commissioners, he said, could not possibly judge the difficulty of shaving a horse, from themselves. [A laugh.] It is quite a different sort of business, and he defied any man to 'go over' such a sized animal, for less than three shillings a day, and to go over the chins of his usual customers at the same time.

Mr Meyers (one of the Commissioners) asked what objection was made to the charge?

The defendant said that he considered the sum of thirty shillings, for merely taking the hair off a horse, entirely too much, especially as he (defendant) had done a good deal of the job himself.

The hair-dresser declared that the part upon which the defendant had operated, was so badly done, that if he had not been shaved again, the coat would have been as rough as a hedgehog, while all the rest was as smooth as a new born baby. [Laughter.]

The defendant said that any horse clipper would have completed the business for a great deal less money.

The hair-dresser said that it was quite impossible. He had never shaved a horse before, but he was a regular sweater.

Mr Meyers asked the defendant what he generally paid for a shave, himself.

The defendant, (feeling his chin,) why two pence I think, is generally the price.

Mr Meyers. Ay, a penny a cheek. Now, how many of your jaws would make up the size of a horse? [A laugh.]

The defendant said that there was less delicacy necessary in shaving a horse than a man.

Mr Meyers. Not a bit more than shaving an ass.

The hair-dresser. Look at the *leather* and the chance of a kick! [Laughter.] Besides, I went over the beast as clean as possible. I turned him out as smooth as my hand, down to the fetlock.

Mr Meyers said that he was surprised at the refusal to pay 30*s.* for the job. Indeed, he always thought it impossible to perform a thing of the kind, and he believed that to be the general belief; for was it not unusual for people to say, when they heard a bouncing fib, 'Next comes a horse to be shaved!' [Loud laughter.]

The hair-dresser said that it was a hard matter to shave some parts of the horse, because the skin here and there hitched very much. For his part, he'd rather 'go over' a whole regiment of soldiers.

The defendant was then ordered to pay the hair-dresser the 30*s.* and costs.

CHOLERA.—It seems unaccountable that the Cholera spreads such terror before it, when both in this country and in England there are many evils existing, which are far more formidable. The Cholera is a mere bagatille, compared with intemperance. Consumption, which is chiefly the result of improper dress and unreasonable exposures, is really more dreadful in this country than half a dozen choleras. If even tight lacing, alone, could enter the lists with the Cholera, and if we were in the habit of betting, we would lay two to one that the Cholera would be worsted. Tight lacing usually does its work under cover of convulsions, consumption, &c.—*American Spectator.*

Count Abensburg, who in Henry II's progress through Germany, while the other courtiers came with their treasures, brought his thirtytwo children, and presented them to his sovereign, as the most valuable offerings he had to bestow.

The recorder in London, at a city dinner, having been called upon for a song, regretted that it was not in his power to gratify the wishes of the company; a worthy alderman, who was present, observed, that he was much surprised at the refusal of the learned person, as it was notorious that numbers had been *transported* by his voice.

Tom Browne, having once asked a man how he contrived to live so well in these hard times, was answered, 'I live, as I suppose you do, by my wits.' 'Faith,' answered Browne, 'I have not the talent to do a great business on so very small a capital.'

Dr Robertson observed that Dr Johnson's jokes were like the rebukes of the righteous, compared in scripture, to excellent oil: 'Yes,' answered Edmund Burke, 'but they are like the oil of vitriol.'

Henry VIII. having a quarrel with Francis I. resolved to send an ambassador to deliver an angry message to the French monarch. Bishop Bonner, being chosen for this office, told Henry that the mission would cost him his life. 'Should Francis dare to sacrifice you,' replied the enraged king, 'I will immediately cut off the heads of all the Frenchmen in my dominions.' 'So you may,' answered Bonner, 'but will any of them fit my shoulders?'

A good bread.—A mixture of two parts flour, and one potato, makes an agreeable bread, which cannot be distinguished from wheaten bread. It is said that not less than 300 tons of potatoes are consumed for this purpose in London every week.

It is a truth, that the observation of all business men will confirm, that *generally* a young man of steady habits, of a *right* education, of industry, prudence and economy, is as certain of becoming rich, as is a stream of water of flowing to an outlet. We except, of course, the intervention of circumstances not to be controled, long sickness or death, reflected misfortunes, &c. Why, then, it may be asked, are so many, truly worthy, and remarkably industrious men, destitute of competency? We reply, that they may not have had a *good* education; that they may have started wrong; they may have been less *provident* than their circumstances demanded; their *first* earnings may have taken a wrong course; single disappointments may have been too severely felt; opportunities may have been neglected; and the great maxim of business men forgotten, 'TRY AGAIN.'—*U. S. Gazette.*

A bon vivant of fashion, brought to his death bed by an immoderate use of wine, after having been seriously taken leave of by Dr Pitcairn, and ingenously told that he could not in all probability survive 12 hours, and would die by eight o'clock next morning, exerted the small remains of his strength to call the Dr back, which having accomplished, with difficulty, his loudest effort not exceeding a whisper, he said with the true spirit of a gambler, 'Doctor, I'll bet you a bottle I live till nine.'

Farm for Sale.

FOR sale, an excellent Farm in the town of Peterborough, N. H. Said Farm is pleasantly situated about a mile from the village; formerly the residence of the late John Smith, Esq. and contains about sixty acres of good land, well walled, with a good House and Barn, and other out-buildings. Terms reasonable, and possession to be given the first of April. For further particulars, inquire of Dea. JOHN FIELD, near the premises, or at No. 3, Rowe's Wharf, Boston. 3t* Jan. 25

Flooring Boards, &c.

OF hard Southern Pine, or Eastern White Pine, furnished to order, ready planed (by steam power) and tongued or grooved, of any required dimensions. Quality good, and price lower than they can be elsewhere had. Apply to E. COPELAND, JR, 65, Broad street.

European Leeches.

The subscriber has made such arrangements abroad as to enable him to be constantly supplied with the *genuine medical Leech.* All orders will receive prompt attention. EBENEZER WIGHT,
46, Milk street, opposite Federal-st., Apothecary.

Ammunition.

OF the *best* quality and *lowest prices*, for sporting—constantly for sale at COPELAND'S POWDER STORE, 65 Broad Street.

N. B. If the quality is not found satisfactory, it may be returned, and the money will be refunded. Jan. 1

Jewelry, Watches, and Fancy Goods.

WM. M. WESSON, No. 105 Washington Street, Boston, is constantly supplied with a good assortment of Watches, Silver and Plated Ware, Jewelry, Cutlery, Trays of all kinds, Fancy Goods, &c, &c, which he will dispose of at as low a rate as can be purchased in the city. ☞Watches repaired and warranted.

Farmer Wanted.

WANTED on a dairy Farm within thirty miles of Boston, a married man to take the same on shares. Good recommendations will be required for capacity, integrity and faithfulness, as also experience in making butter.—Inquire at this office. Feb. 1.

Published every Wednesday Evening, at $3 per annum, payable at the end of the year—but those who pay within sixty days from the time of subscribing, are entitled to a deduction of fifty cents.

☞ No paper will be sent to a distance without payment being made in advance.

Printed for J. B. RUSSELL, by I. R. BUTTS—by whom all descriptions of Printing can be executed to meet the wishes of customers. Orders for Printing received by J. B. RUSSELL, at the Agricultural Warehouse, No. 52, North Market Street.

AGENTS.

New York—G. THORBURN & SONS, 67 Liberty-street.
Albany—WM. THORBURN, 347 Market-street.
Philadelphia—D. & C. LANDRETH, 35 Chestnut-street.
Baltimore—G. B. SMITH, Editor of the American Farmer.
Cincinnati—S. C. PARKHURST, 23 Lower Market-street.
Flushing, N. Y. WM. PRINCE & SONS, Prop. Lin. Bot. Garden
Middlebury, Vt.—WIGHT CHAPMAN.
Hartford—GOODWIN & Co. Booksellers.
Springfield, Ms.—E. EDWARDS.
Newburyport.—EBENEZER STEDMAN, Bookseller.
Portsmouth, N. H.—J. W. FOSTER, Bookseller.
Portland, Me.—SAMUEL COLMAN, Bookseller.
Augusta, Me.—WM. MANN.
Halifax, N. S.—P. J. HOLLAND, Esq. Recorder Office
Montreal, L. C.—HENRY HILLOCK.